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did not try to hold the bill up and it would have come out anyway, as it should, because there are other claims which are legitimate. Contrary to what Senator Connealy said, I do not believe the state can be held to a judge, just carte blanche, in a blanket manner,...

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: One minute.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: ...telling a county attorney, any one of these cases you handle we'll give you \$500. We should not pay the claim. Let the lawyer go to court. Then let that judge establish why he or she is granting a \$500 bounty for every one of these cases, especially when it's coming out of the taxpayers' pockets. This money is not taxed to the individual who is the subject of the action. It is taxed to the state of Nebraska and the Attorney General is approving every one of these. The Attorney General that everybody loves so much is approving every one of these, and the judge is approving every one of them. Check and balance means that the Legislature stops the check in order that we may properly balance our budget. As a Legislature, we're letting people run roughshod over us and I hear, on other matters which are far more worthy...

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: Time.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: ...to be financed than this, the Legislature knuckles under. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: Senator Don Pederson.

SENATOR D. PEDERSON: Mr. Speaker, members of the Legislature, two bodies of which I have an interest, Lincoln County and the Appropriations Committee, have been discussed here, and I would like to put just a little perspective on the issue. I...this isn't...this is not a matter where the county attorney of Lincoln County is turning in a claim for \$500. The district judge has preordained that if there is an administrative law hearing they are going to be paid \$500. And it's not his measure of how to obtain more money. It's simply that he has received the responsibility for doing this. So the first question is, why are there so many hearings in Lincoln County?